

2015
spring

The Village Press



60 West Wattles Road | Troy, MI 48098

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MANY STORIES ONE HERITAGE PROJECT

In 1965 Senators Phil Hart of Michigan and Emanuel Celler of New York co-sponsored important immigration legislation that changed US immigration policy that had been in place since the 1920s. The old policy was based on a national origins quota system, which gave preference to northern and western European immigrants and excluded Asians and Africans. The Hart Celler Act established new policies focused on immigrant skills, particularly desirable technical skills, and family relationships with citizens or U.S. residents. The legislation was enacted at the same time high-tech industries were moving to the young City of Troy. Also known as the Immigration and Naturalization

Act of 1965, the new law opened the doors to immigrants from India, China, Japan, Korea, the Philippines and other Asian nations. Fifty years later, we commemorate this seminal legislation and celebrate Troy's diverse cultural heritage and economic vitality.

The Troy Historical Society in partnership with members of Troy's Asian American community have designed a yearlong program entitled Many Stories— One Heritage to record the experiences of first and second generation Asian immigrants through audio and video oral histories and to recognize their contributions to Troy and the region. The Society has submitted a grant application to the Michigan Humanities Council to provide funds for the project.

Due to a generous \$10,000 donation in start-up funds provided by one of our partner organizations, the Asian and Pacific Islander American Vote – MI (APIA Vote-MI), Many Stories— One Heritage is already underway. This seed money will be used to purchase recording equipment, train interviewers, identify interviewees, conduct preliminary research for the interviews, and develop a framework for interview questions.

An initial step will be a day long Oral History Workshop on May 2, 2015 from 10:00 am to 3:30 pm at the Troy Historic Village provided by the Michigan Oral History Association. The Oral History Workshop

will include training for interviewers and information on recording, transcribing, and preserving interviews. Copyright and other legal considerations will also be discussed. This information is critical for those interested in using interviews for publications, documentaries, or educational programs.

"Well done oral histories capture more than just anecdotes and memories. They also include personal commentaries on significant places, events, and people through the reflections and insights of individuals who experienced them," explained Loraine Campbell. "Many of us have regretted not collecting the stories of special people in our lives – family members, friends, or mentors who influenced us or changed the lives of others. But we didn't have the tools or the training to do a great interview. We will now have the training and a well-developed program to capture these stories."

The Oral History Workshop is open to anyone interested in preserving their family's heritage, groups considering an oral history project, or individuals who wish to participate in Many Stories – One Heritage. Registration for the workshop is \$38 per person and includes handouts and lunch. For more information and to register please call 248-524-3570. Registrations must be received by April 27, 2015.

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THS NEWS

THS Receives Grant



The Troy Historical Society has been awarded a grant of \$24,000 from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) to support general operations in the Troy Historic Village. This grant was awarded through the MCACA peer review process and was one of 494 applications to compete for MCACA funding in fiscal year 2015. State Senator Marty Knollenberg commented, "The financial support from the State through this MCACA Grant to the Troy Historical Society pays important local dividends. Education programs, family events, and cultural services improve the quality of life in our community." The Society deeply appreciates the grant funds which will support staff and public programs including Artisan Arts classes and workshops.



"365 Project" Expands Regional Awareness

Have you been following the stories posted each day on www.troyhistoricvillage.org and www.facebook.com/TroyHistoricVillage? Each article in the 365 Project highlights a person, discovery, or event that occurred locally, regionally, nationally, or even globally between 1955 and 2015 and that helped shape our lives and our community. This project is one of the significant ways that the Troy Historical Society is commemorating Troy's 60th anniversary year. The project is also unfolding as a very successful way to increase regional awareness of the Village and our programs and services. Technology allows us to track the number of people who visit our websites to view a story on any given day and the number of people who interact with a story by sharing, commenting, or liking it. There were over 4,400 views of our story about Troy street names and 2,000+ views on stories that highlighted beloved Troy citizens including former Troy Schools Superintendent Janet Jopke. We have also seen over 800 interactions in one day on stories that really resonate with our followers and over 200 THV Facebook friends since January 1. Please join them. Read the stories and share them with your friends. Send your comments and suggestions for new stories to ed@thvmail.org; like our Facebook page; and consider joining the project team as a contributing writer.

Meet Justin Velasco and Steven Deutsch

Excel Employment Options is a nonprofit organization that provides assessment, training, and job placement services for adults with developmental challenges. The Troy Historical Society is collaborating with Excel by offering training and evaluation opportunities in the Village. Excel clients have prepared craft packets for preschool programs, stuffed envelopes, and completed basic janitorial duties. As a result of this collaboration, the Society retained two Excel Employment clients, Justin Velasco and Steven Deutsch, as part time THS employees. With the support and guidance of their Job Coach, David Tschirhart, these men provide housekeeping and janitorial services in the Village three days each week. We appreciate their good work and the opportunity to support the mission of Excel Employment Options.



A Letter from our Executive Director,
Loraine Campbell

Thirty-five years ago, I gained a valuable insight from the five-year old daughter of an Air Force officer who was being transferred to another base. "So, you're going to look for a new home," someone said to the little girl. Without hesitating, she replied, "Oh no, we have a home. We just have to find a new house to put it in."

It was a simple yet profound distinction between people and a thing, family and a place. Now fast-forward to the 2015 celebration of the 60th anniversary of Troy as a home rule city. What exactly is the City of Troy? It's easy to think of "The City" in terms of roads, water mains, tidy subdivisions, and commercial developments. More than a few residents equate "The City" with the anonymous and oftentimes onerous "them" that approves permits, fixes potholes, and collects property taxes.

But if we think more like that enlightened five-year old we realize that "we the people" are "The City" and that Troy is a living breathing community. So the anniversary celebration of the City of Troy is not only about our government, but also about the contributions, vitality, and vibrancy of a diverse community of people. In a similar way, the history of our community is not a litany of names, dates, events, or census data, but the stories of real people.

That is why the Troy Historical Society and the Village staff are so pleased to embark on our new project, Many Stories – One Heritage. Our preliminary discussions with our Asian partners have revealed incredible immigrant experiences, personal challenges, and inspiring examples of courage, determination, and resilience. Not every story ends in success nor is every success achieved without loss or disappointment. But each authentic story increases our collective understanding of the past and provides us context for the present and future as we evolve as community.

I invite you to learn more about the community we call Troy. Please join us for our Many Stories– One Heritage festival on Sunday June 28 from 1 pm - 5 pm in the Village and enjoy great food, music, culture, and stories. I also hope to see some of you on May 2 for the Oral History Workshop (details in insert.) This is a terrific opportunity to develop good interview skills and use them to record and preserve the stories of friends and family members who have contributed to your life and values. They become a part of your heritage that, like "home," stays with you no matter where you live.



Art, Mix & Mingle

Date: Thursday June 4, 2015

Time: 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Artists and art-lovers, you're invited! Join us for a friend-raising night of art and history, complete with music, wine and hors d'oeuvres. Meet local artists and view their work, exhibited in our restored 19th-century historic buildings. Your ticket price also includes the chance to enter a drawing for fabulous prizes, and supports the Image and Arts Council of Troy and the Troy Historical Society.

Are you an artist? Don't miss this opportunity to network with other artists in the community and share your work with the public. Remember to bring business cards! Call the Village for details on exhibiting your work during this event.

Price: \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door. Register at the Troy Historic Village by calling 248.524.3570.



Volunteer Spotlight: Bill Ziemba

He has a warm smile, is full of great suggestions and willingly picks up a paintbrush, shovel, or the best tool for any job in the Village. Bill Ziemba is known by the entire staff as a wonderful friend and a dependable volunteer. In addition to his many hours of service in the Village since 2010, Bill always helps his neighbors with household projects and delivers Meals on Wheels in Troy.

Bill and his wife Kathy, who have one adult son, have lived literally around the block from the Village since 1976. They are both natives of Southeast Michigan.

"I grew up in Warren and graduated from Fitzgerald High School," Bill explained recently. "I played lead guitar from 1965-1972 in a band called the Fade Aways. I had a 1960 Fender Stratocaster. Great memories... Following high school I was also accepted into an apprenticeship program at General Motors. For the next

four years I worked at GM while I took classes at Macomb Community College." Bill graduated as an Experimental Model Maker and continued to work at the GM Tech Center for the next 40 years.

The highlight of Bill's career was being selected to work as part of a heavily classified team between 1989 and 1993 that designed and built the four presidential limousines used by President Clinton. "It was an incredible experience," Bill said. "Each team member went through extensive FBI background checks plus daily security checks and protocols by the Secret Service. But we were so proud to work on these special vehicles. It's something I will always remember."

Because of his interest in cars, Bill is now lending a hand as we plan the 2015 Troy Traffic Jam Car Show. If you would like to join Bill and other THV



Bill Ziemba, THS Volunteer

volunteers at this major fundraising event for the Troy Historical Society, please email apd@thvmail.org. We need people to greet and direct the public, sell ice cream, water, and raffle tickets, and direct the car show entries to their parking spaces.

Embracing Excellence

60 Years of Growth
in Troy & the
Big Beaver corridor



April 21, 2015
5:30 - 7:30 pm | Huntington Bank
801 W Big Beaver
Troy, MI 48084

Embracing the Future by Preserving the Past You are Invited!

Join Us to Celebrate Troy's 60th Birthday

We take great pride in Troy being widely recognized as a wonderful place to live, raise families, and do business. Thanks to the generous support of Huntington Bank we are offering an entertaining evening on Tuesday April 21st from 5:30 to 7:30 pm to celebrate our City and the Big Beaver corridor. The event will be held in the atrium lobby of Huntington Bank's regional offices located at 801/803 W. Big Beaver Road.

View interesting items from the Troy Historic Village collections that represent each decade in the past 60 years. Old street signs, household items, office equipment, important documents, pictures, and vintage fashions will be displayed.

Also learn about the growth and development of Big Beaver Road into

an exceptional center for commerce and an alternative "downtown". See historic aerial photographs and news accounts that show how Big Beaver changed from a tree-covered two-lane road into the thriving six-lane corridor it is today. Then see the Corridor as city planners envision it in another 60 years.

Enjoy complimentary hors d'oeuvres and refreshments in the company of friends, business associates, and new acquaintances. Tickets are \$35 for an individual and \$50 for a couple. RSVP soon by registering on our THV website (www.troyhistoricvillage.org) or calling us at the Village at 248-524-3570.

We look forward to seeing you on April 21st at Huntington Bank to help us toast Troy's 60th birthday!

Cheddar's

renewal

**Don't miss Cheddar's
Next Preschool
Story Hour!
10:30 - 11:30 am**

**April 25:
Cheddar's Springtime Button Hunt: 11 - 12 PM**

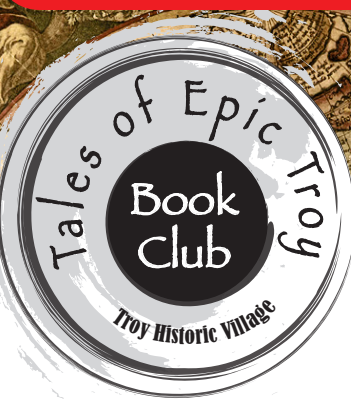
Join Cheddar in a hunt for buttons in the Village! Read a story together, enjoy a snack following the hunt, play games and make a button box to take home. Bring your picnic lunch and eat on the Village Green.

Button Hunt program is
\$5/adult and \$4/child

**Apr. 8 - Wednesday
"Dinosaurs"**

**May 6 - Wednesday
"Feathered Friends"**

Fee: \$5 per Adult; \$3 per Child
Appropriate for ages 2-5.
Refreshments provided.
Registration required. 248.524.3570



**Join us from
10:30 am - 12:00 pm on select
Saturdays for a book club like
YOU'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE!**

Introduce your child to other cultures in fun and engaging ways. We'll read and discuss books, try foods from different cultures, make a craft, sing a song or two—every Book Club meeting will feature a different way for your child to learn about our diverse world.

April 11: Planting Seeds for our Future

Celebrate awakening of nature and explore natural and architectural wonders. Travel through history and explore world geography, cultures and people from the Grand Canyon to the Great Wall of China.

May 9: Religion Around the World

Learn about world's principal religions and spiritual traditions, including Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism and Buddhism.

Price: **Free** with admission,
but advance registration is required.

Appropriate for ages 6 - 10.

Assigned reading for each session will be given at registration.

Scouts Second Saturdays

2nd Saturday of the month

10 am - Noon

Registration required: Call 248.524.3598

\$8 per scout

\$5 per adult

Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts: you're invited to the Village for hands-on history adventures.

April 11: Letterboxing

Brownies and Scouts can draw an image onto an eraser. Adults from the group carve the image onto an ink stamp. Small groups of scouts then follow a trail of clues to lead to other ink stamps (and a bit of history). Take your stamp home.



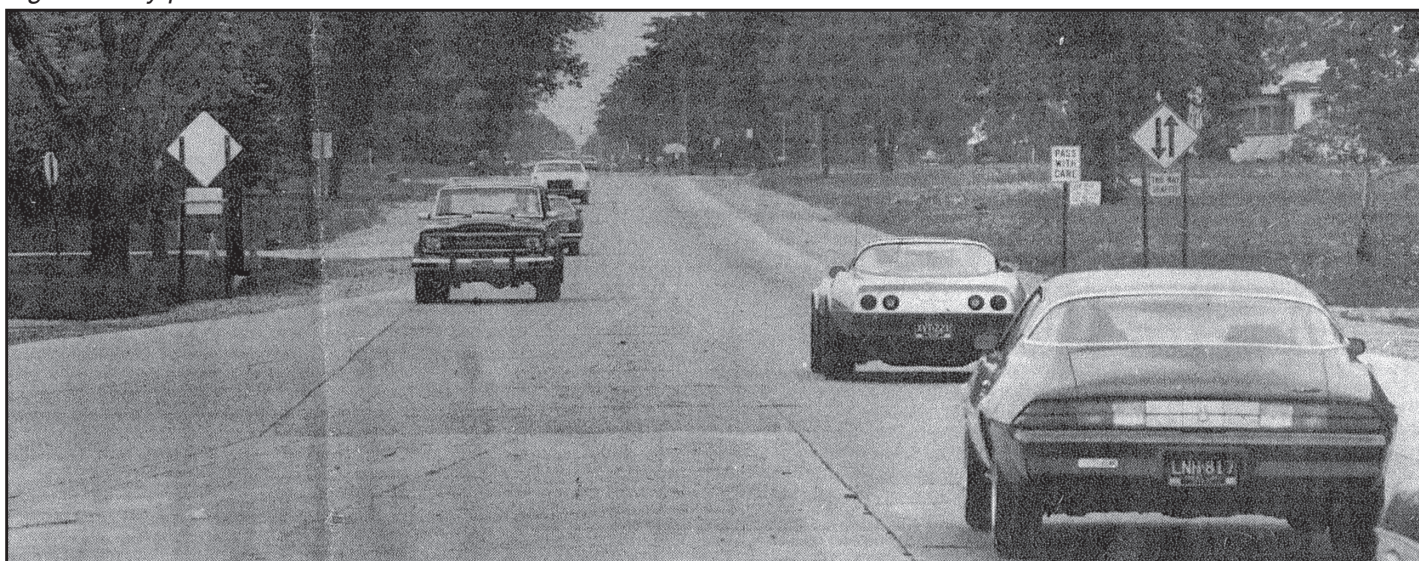
A Bit of History: “New ‘n Old Meet on Big Beaver”

May 27, 1982 issue of The Eccentric, Troy Edition

Recently former Mayor Jeanne Stine gave me the yellowed front page of the May 27, 1982 issue of The Eccentric, Troy Edition. The main article by staff writer Marie Chestney was titled “New ‘n Old Meet on Big Beaver.” The article in its entirety and the photograph that accompanied it are reprinted here. Together they provide a terrific view of

Once past Livernois, however, the view on Big Beaver suddenly changes. The narrow, two-lane roadway that looms ahead is like many that can be found in nearly any quiet, country town. There are deep roadside ditches . . . trim and modern buildings next to ailing, disheveled ones . . . weeds and clutter . . . junk cars sitting

Beaubien said he has been hearing about the “inadequacy” of Big Beaver ever since he first came to work in Troy seven years ago. If all goes according to city plan, Big Beaver east will be something like Big Beaver west by the end of 1985. The two lanes will give way to four lanes. The roadside will be just as manicured. Much of the ailing, the disheveled, the boarded-up buildings will go. And perhaps, after all the renovations are over and the dust has settled down, Big Beaver east will also be a magnet for businesses bursting to grow.



Looking east from Livernois on Big Beaver Rd.

the Big Beaver Corridor 33 years ago, the City’s vision and challenge, and the impact of impending change on individuals and business.

-Loraine Campbell

Big Beaver Road west of Livernois and Big Beaver Road east of Livernois have little in common besides the name.

Big Beaver west is a spacious, manicured, modern, four-lane divided highway where drivers coming and drivers going never have to meet. Towering, impressive buildings which line the boulevard tell of money, vigor, prestige, growth and successful days to come. Riding down Big Beaver west is like a trip into a big city’s future.

outside sagging barns . . . homes and businesses hugging the road, homes and businesses standing aloof in the distance . . . barking dogs . . . just planted home gardens . . . open fields . . . boarded-up homes . . . A trip down Big Beaver east is like a trip into a little town’s past.

Except for one thing. Unlike its country counterparts, Big Beaver east has to cater to big city traffic. The road ahead starts to look precarious when cars whiz by your ears, when driveway traffic darts in front of you, when oncoming cars swerve toward you.

Just about everyone in Troy agrees that something had to be done about the traffic on this section of Big Beaver. Troy transportation engineer Richard

Lots of changes will be taking place from Livernois to Dequindre in the next three years. There will be construction crews, earth-moving crews, (and) demolition crews. The city will buy from current land owners the land needed to complete the 204-foot road widening. Small companies which lease and larger businesses too close to the road will have to find new quarters. Residential homes on land not needed for the project will stay. Residential homes on land needed by the city will have to go. In all, some 60 property owners along three miles will get to stay, while 36 businesses and residential property owners will have to sell and move.

Both groups— those staying and those going— will be affected by the estimated \$10 million project.

41st Annual Garden Walk, “Splashes & Flowers”

The Troy Garden Club, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, will be sponsoring their 41st Annual Garden Walk, “Splashes and Flowers,” on Wednesday, July 8th. Eight private gardens will be open from 9:30am-3:00pm & 5:00pm-8:30pm, rain or shine. Tickets may be purchased in advance for \$10 beginning May 30th at Auburn Oaks Garden Center, Telly’s Greenhouse, Uncle Lukes, and the Troy Historic Village. Tickets on July 8th are \$15 and available only at the Village.

The Troy Historic Village, the garden walk hub, will host garden walk activities from 9:00am-6:30pm featuring an arts & crafts boutique, plant sale, fabulous finds sale and student art exhibit. Admission to the Village for this event is FREE.

The Garden Walk is their principal fund raiser. In turn, the club supports local, state and national organizations and individuals



through donations for horticultural and educational pursuits. Donations to the Village include funds to purchase plants and mulch for the garden beds maintained by garden club members and future plantings for the Niles-Barnard House and the main museum building. The Troy Garden Club also participates in the Village’s annual Halloween, and holiday events.

Place of Worship Tours

Let’s meet up! Join the Troy Historical Society in visiting some of this city’s many different places of worship. We’ll hear the history of these congregations and see the beautiful and unique architecture of their buildings. Tours begin at 7:30 pm in the parking lot of each place of worship.

**May 20: St. Mark Coptic Church,
3603 Livernois Road**

The Coptic Church was founded on the teachings of St. Mark, eponymous author of the New Testament book and missionary credited with bringing Christianity to Egypt in the first century. Learn about the rich history of the Coptic Church, the history of Copts in Michigan and the story of St. Mark’s congregation in Troy.



**June 17: St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church,
760 West Wattles Road**

As large numbers of families left Detroit for the suburbs in the latter half of the 20th century, St. Nicholas Hellenic Orthodox Church, established in 1937 in Detroit, faced a membership crisis. In response, eleven acres were purchased in Troy, and a new church, St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox, opened its doors in 1994. Join us for a tour of St. Nicholas and see the original murals and iconography brought from the Detroit church.

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James Myers: jim@allegratroy.com or Gerald Savalle: gerald@allegratroy.com

Thursday Teas at Two

Sip a cup of tea while enjoying a slice of history. A different delightful topic each month! Presentations begin in the Old Troy Church at 2pm and last one hour. Guests are welcome to bring their own china cup and saucer if preferred.

Fee: \$7 per person, includes admission & a chance to win a tea cup & saucer.

Register in advance.

No refunds, no exchanges.

April 30: Eleanor Clay Ford and Edsel Ford: Centennial of a Beautiful Relationship

The only child of Clara and Henry Ford married the niece of department store magnate Joseph L. Hudson on November 1, 1916. Join Ford Historian Mike Skinner for a look at how Eleanor Clay and Edsel Ford met in their teens, their courtship, marriage and life in the beautiful Grosse Pointe mansion on Lake St. Clair. We'll look also at their descendants, who today control 40% of Ford's shareholder votes.



Hours:
Mon thru Fri: 10 am - 3 pm

APRIL 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2 Beginning Calligraphy	3 Village open till 1pm. Good Friday	4 Passover
5 Happy Easter 	6	7	8 Cheddar's Preschool Story Hour "Dinosaurs" Unearthing Our Buried Past	9	10 First Friday Cultural Excursions: Cranbrook	11 Tales of Epic Troy "Planting Seeds for our Future" Scouts Second Saturdays
12	13	14	15 Tax Day	16 Beginning Calligraphy	17	18
19	20 Martin Luther King Day	21 Embracing Excellence at Huntington Bank	22 Earth Day	23 Peace, Love, Mosaic	24 Arbor Day	25 Cheddar's Springtime Button Hunt
26	27	28	29	30 Thursday Teas at Two "Eleanor Clay Ford and Edsel Ford"	1	2



60 Wattles Rd. | Troy, MI 48098

41st Annual Garden Walk, "Splashes & Flowers"

July 8, 2015

Raffle Requests: In 2014 the second annual Troy Historical Society raffle during the Troy Garden Walk awarded over 25 prizes valued at almost \$3000 and netted over \$1000 for the Troy Historic Village. The 2015 raffle will be held on Wednesday, July 8th, rain or shine. If you can make a financial donation to offset printing and licensing costs for the raffle please contact THV Fund Development Director David Zuza at fud@thvmail.org. If you know a business owner who might donate a gift card or item to the raffle please contact JoAnn Preston at jakepre24@msn.com. Contributions should appeal to our 1000 Garden Walk guests from the metro area. Finally, check your calendar now to see if you are available to help set up the raffle table, sell tickets at the event, or contact the happy winners on July 8. Shifts are about 2 ½ hours. Let us work together to make Troy Historical Society Walk Raffle bigger, better and more fun than ever.



Hours:
Mon thru Fri: 10 am - 3 pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	1 First Friday Cultural Excursions: Birmingham	2 Oral History Workshops
3	4	5	6 Cheddar's Preschool Story Hour "Feathered Friends"	7	8	9 Tales of Epic Troy "Religion Around the World" Adult Watercolor Workshop
Mother's Day 10	11	12	13 Unearthing our Buried Past: Mysteries and Contradictions	14	15	16 Adult Civil War Days
17	Civil War Days 18	Civil War Days 19	20 Place of Worship Tour: St. Mark Coptic Church Civil War Days	Civil War Days 21	Civil War Days 22	23 Basic Blacksmithing Anvil Time
Closed	24 Memorial Day 25 Closed	26	27 Cemetery Walk	28	29	30 Basic Blacksmithing Anvil Time Woodcarving Workshop
31						

Unearthing Our Buried Past

Interested in archaeology? This is a great opportunity to 'get your trowel dirty' and learn a bit about history from the archaeologists who bring history out of the earth. Presentations take place at 7:30 on the second Wednesday of each month in our Old Troy Church. Refreshments

Price: Individual tickets: \$3/THS members, \$5/non-members.

Or save on season tickets: \$10/THS members, \$17/non-members. Register in advance.

Please register in advance.

Tickets: \$3 THS members/
\$5 non-members.

Save on Season Tickets:

\$10 THS members/

\$17 non-members.

Call 248.524.3570 to register.

April 8: Archaeology 101

Archaeology is the study of the human past through physical items and evidence left behind. Village Staff member Alex Konieczny will speak about the process and the ethical issues inherent in excavation. He'll also share the recent archaeological finds from right here at the Village! This presentation will provide a good working knowledge of archaeology that may be helpful if you plan to participate in the upcoming excavation at the Village this summer.

May 13: Mysteries and Contradictions

Archaeology often teaches us about the people who created history, sometimes bringing to light things that are not in the documentary record. Dr. Spencer-Wood will discuss how some artifacts create mysteries that contradict our expectations of a site. This will be explored through her experience excavating THV's own Parsonage while it still stood at Troy Corners.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
			Cheddar's Preschool Story Hour "Crazy Critters in the Rain Forest"	I ACT/THV Mix and Mingle		Basic Blacksmithing Anvil Time
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
				Blacksmithing for Two		Basic Blacksmithing Anvil Time
Flag Day 14	15	16	17	18	19	20
			Place of Worship Tour: St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church	Ramadan		Troy 60 th Anniversary Birthday Party! Basic Blacksmithing
Father's Day 21	22	23	24	25	26	27
				Thursday Teas at Two Archaeology Dig - Beginners		Basic Blacksmithing Anvil Time
MANY Stories ONE Heritage Festival 28	29	30	1	2	3	4

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☐ \$35: Individual

☐ \$50: Couple/Family

(includes children under 21)

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Address: _____

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Signature: _____

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Become a part of history by supporting our general fund or donate to a specific need:
I wish to Donate...

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\$ Niles-Barnard Renovation
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\$ Special Programs
\$ Other _____

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Hours:
Mon thru Fri: 10 am - 3 pm

Adults: \$5
Seniors: \$3
Children (6-12): \$3
Children under 6: FREE

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